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Leonardo of Pisa, Euclid, Leibnitz, Napier, Vieta, Newton, Thales. The portraits are printed by a photographic process, and are issued in two forms, the first on Japanese paper, the price of which is $5, and the second on plate paper, at $3. The originals are from Professor Smith's large collection. With each portrait is a biographical note introducing a brief biography. E.

Editor Finkel has been appointed to a Harrison Fellowship in the University of Pennsylvania for the year 1905-1906. The Board of Trustees of Drury College has granted him a year's leave of absence and he will spend the coming year in study in Philadelphia. Mr. O. E. Glenn, Fellow in Mathematics in the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed Acting Professor of Mathematics and Physics during his absence.

Dr. Edward Kasner has been promoted to an instructorship in Mathematics in Barnard College, Columbia University.

Professor E. B. VanVleck, of Wesleyan University has received leave of absence and will spend the year abroad.

Professor L. W. Dowling, of the University of Wisconsin, has been granted leave of absence and will spend the coming year mainly in Italy.

Mr. W. H. Roever has been appointed Instructor in Mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

The Secret of the Circle and the Square. By J. C. Willmon. 12 mo. Cloth, 30 pages. Los Angeles, California: Published by the Author.

This little volume should not be consigned to the junk-pile of literature treating on successful (?) circle-squaring and angle trisecting, as one might infer from its title. The author states in his preface that it is his intention "to demonstrate the possibility of constructing a straight line equal to any given arc of a circle, and through this problem to construct a square equal in area to any circle and a circle equal in area to any square, with solutions of kindred geometrical problems." The constructions are simple, though only approximate, but may, by the method given, be carried out to any desired degree of accuracy. B. F. F.

Plane and Spherical Trigonometry. By P. A. Lambert, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Lehigh University, and H. A. Foering, Head Master of Bethlehem Preparatory School. 8vo. Cloth, 104 pages. Price, 60 cents. New York: The Macmillan Co.

This text-book gives about the amount of material required of the average college student. The definitions of the functions are given by means of projection, a feature that is rapidly gaining favor among teachers. The book contains neither tables nor answers to the problems. B. F. F.

Euclid's Parallel Postulate, Its Nature, Validity, and Place in Geometrical Systems. By John William Withers, Ph. D., Principal of the Yeatman High School, St. Louis, Mo. 8vo. Cloth, vii+192 pages. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Co.

This is the author's thesis presented to the Philosophical Faculty of Yale University for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The author discusses the subject quite fully in seven chapters. In the first chapter he traces the pre-Lobatchevskian struggle with the parallel postulate; in the second, he considers the discovery and development of non-Euclidean systems; in the third, he notes the general Orientation of the problem; in the fourth, the psychology of the parallel postulate and its kindred conceptions are treated; in the fifth, the nature and validity of the parallel postulate is set forth; and in the sixth, the resulting implications as to the nature of space are noted. The seventh chapter is given a fairly complete Bibliography of non-Euclidean geometry. B. F. F.

The New Knowledge. A popular account of the New Physics and New Chemistry in relation to the New Theory of Matter. By Robert Kennedy Duncan, Professor of Chemistry in Washington and Jefferson College. 8 vo. Cloth, xviii+263 pages. Price, $2.00. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co.

The author of this book has given a very remarkable presentation of the whole field of recent discoveries, ranging from the atoms of the elements, corpuscles, the various rays, radioactivity, and inter-atomic energy, to inorganic evolution and cosmical problems. It is written in a simple though clear style, and, while dealing with the profoundest subjects that ever engaged the attention of man, requires no more of its readers than a love of contemporary natural science and a high school education. The work is one that every person interested in the progress and achievements of the human race, the marvelous inventions and discoveries, will want to read and reread. B. F. F.

Elements of the Kinematics of a Point and the Rational Mechanics of a Particle. By G. O. James, Ph. D., Instructor in Mathematics and Astronomy, Washington University, St. Louis. Small 8vo. Cloth, xii+176 pages, 39 figures. Price, $2.00. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

This book is intended for those students who wish to continue the study of Mechanics beyond an elementary course, and is meant to serve as an introduction to advanced treatises. For this reason applications have been almost entirely omitted, to the detriment, it seems to me, of the usefulness of the book, since nothing so firmly clinches a principle as a well selected application of that principle. Problems requiring a knowledge of the calculus and elementary differential equations have been either entirely omitted or approximate solutions only have been given. The book closes with an elementary and concise treatment of Constrained Motions on the Earth's Surface. B. F. F.

Graphic Algebra for Secondary Schools. By H. B. Newson, Ph. D., Associate Professor of Mathematics in the University of Kansas. Pamphlet, 19 pages. Boston and Chicago. Ginn & Co.

This pamphlet is the author's interpretation of the recent Committee of the American Mathematical Association's recommendation both as to kind and amount of graphical work to be used in illustrations and in connection with the solutions of equations. F.